

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NAIROB 10766 230924Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07
AID-05 EB-08 DHA-02 /115 W
-----014077 231123Z /17

R 230800Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0711
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 10766

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, KE, FR, US, XA
SUBJECT: VISIT OF FRENCH FONMIN DE GUIRINGAUD

REF: STATE 196242 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. IN AUGUST 12-13 VISIT TO KENYA, FRENCH
FONMIN DE GUIRINGAUD HELD DISCUSSUONS WITH GOK OFFICIALS INCLUDING
FONMIN WAIYAKI AND VICE PRESIDENT MOI, COVERING BILATERAL ISSUES,
THE HORN, SOUTHERN AFRICA AND INDIAN OCEAN. THE KENYANS WERE INTERES-
TED IN FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR INCREASED ASSISTANCE, REQUESTED
ACCELERATED DELIVERY ON ALREADY-ORDERED HELICOPTERS, AND EXPRESSED
GRAVE CONCERN OVER PROPOSED FRENCH ARMS TO SOMALIA. DE GUIRIGAUD
TOLD KENYANS IN ESSENCE THAT NO FRENCH ARMS WILL GO TO SOMALIA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NAIROB 10766 230924Z

UNTIL OGADEN SITUATION "CLEARED UP." HE EXPLAINED FRENCH POLICY
CONCERN OVER DJIBOUTI AND RECENT DECISION AGAINST ARMS TO SOUTH
AFRICA. DE GUIRINGAUD'S PRESS CONFERENCE AND TALKS RECEIVED LOCAL
PRESS COVERAGE BUT NOT OF FRONT-PAGE VARIETY. FRENCH AMBASSADOR
IN NAIROBI SAID TALKS WENT FAIRLY WELL--ESPECIALLY COMPARED WITH
OTHER STOPS ON TRIP--BUT FRENCH WERE GENERALLY DISAPPOINTED WITH
ANGLOPHONE AFRICA'S RESERVOIR OF SUSPICION OF FRENCH MOTIVES AND

ACTIONS. FRENCH AMBASSADOR BELIEVES SOVIETS DELIBERATELY SABOTAGED DE GUIRINGAUD'S VISIT TO AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED DE GUIRINGAUD VISIT WITH FRENCH AMBASSADOR GIRARD, WHO SAID BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS PRIMARILY CONCERNED DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND ARMS DELIVERIES TO KENYA. FRENCH NOW HAVE FR. 5 MILLION AID PROGRAM IN KENYA AND WISH TO EXPAND IT. KENYANS WERE INTERESTED IN FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR NEW LOANS (ACCORDING TO BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER FR. 100 MILLION ON COMMERCIAL TERMS AND FR. 50 MILLION SOFT TERMS), BUT DISCUSSIONS DID NOT GET TOO SPECIFIC. GOK IS NOW SUPPOSED TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR SPENDING LOAN PROCEEDS. KENYANS DID NOT SHOW INTEREST IN FRENCH PROPOSAL TO ACQUIRE SECAM COLOR TELEVISION SYSTEM.

3. GOK OFFICIALS REQUESTED SPEED-UP ON DELIVERY OF FRENCH HELICOPTERS AND, ACCORDING TO BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FRENCH ACP'S. HOWEVER, FRENCH AMBASSADOR SAID NO NEW ARMS AGREEMENTS WERE CONCLUDED.

4. DE GUIRINGAUD REPORTEDLY SAID FRANCE DOES NOT WANT TO TAKE POSITION IN CONFLICT BETWEEN ETHIOPIANS AND SOMALIA. ITS ONLY STRATEGIC INTEREST IN AFRICA REMAINS IN DJIBOUTI, WHOSE INDEPENDENCE AND INTEGRITY FRANCE HAS PLEDGED TO MAINTAIN. DE GUIRINGAUD TOLD KENYANS PRIVATELY THAT FRANCE SUPPORTS 1964 OAU RESOLUTION ON TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND WILL NOT DELIVER ARMS TO SOMALIA BEFORE OGADEN SITUATION CLARIFIED. HE SAID ONLY 10 PERCENT OF SOMALI SHOPPING

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NAIROB 10766 230924Z

LIST IS BEING CONSIDERED, AND THESE ARMS ALL DEFENSIVE. ACCORDING TO AUG. 14-15 "LE MONDE" ARTICLE DATED NAIROBI, GOK OFFICIALS IMPRESSED ON FRENCH FOMIN KENYA'S BELIEF THAT ITS NORTHERN FRONTIER DISTRICT WILL BE SOMALIA'S NEXT TARGET AFTER OGADEN. DE GUIRINGAUD SAID FRANCE INTENDS TO BE CAUTIOUS; IT DOES NOT WANT TO OFFER ANY AGGRESSOR PRETEXT AGAINST DJIBOUTI BY ADOPTING ATTITUDE WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS PROVOCATIVE.

5. ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, DE GUIRINGAUD SAID IN PRESS CONFERENCE THAT FRANCE SUPPORTS PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS OF RHODESIA, NAMIBIA AND

PARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE PROMISED TO UPHOLD BAN ON ARMS SHIPMENTS TO SOUTH AFRICA, ALTHOUGH FRANCE WILL MAKE DELIVERY ON NAVAL VESSELS NOW BEING BUILT FOR PRETORIA. HE DENIED FRANCE HAS PROVIDED ARMS TO RHODESIA IN VIOLATION OF UN SANCTIONS.

6. FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT FRENCH BELIEVE TASS ARTICLE CLAIMING SOUTH AFRICA READY TO TEST NUCLEAR WEAPONS WAS DELIBERATELY CONTRIVED IN EFFORT TO SABOTAGE DE GUIRINGAUD VISIT BY LINKING FRANCO-SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR POWER

AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICAN WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT. IN INTERVIEW WITH
NAIROBI WEEKLY REVIEW, DE GUIRINGAUD VENTED HIS SPLEEN SOMEWHAT
AGAINST THIS SOVIET HARASSMENT BY TERMING THE TASS ALLEGATION
"A DIPLOMATIC GAME" TO "DISTRACT THE ATTENTION OF THE AFRICANS
FROM THE FACT THAT THEY (SOVIETS) ARE FUELLING THE WAR BETWEEN SOMALIA

AND ETHIOPIA." ASKED IF THERE ARE ANY AREAS IN AFRICAN ISSUES
WITH WHICH HE AGREES WITH THE SOVIET UNION, HE REPLIED: I WOULD
BE AT A LOSS TO FIND ANY."

7. FRENCH AMBASSADOR ALSO TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR
IN LUSAKA, SOLODOVNIKOV, IS BELIEVED TO HAVE MASTER-MINDED
DIPLOMATIC "SABOTAGE" EFFORT AGAINST FRANCE, INCLUDING DEMONSTRATIONS
IN DAR ES SALAAM.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 NAIROB 10766 230924Z

8. FRENCH AMBASSADOR GIRARD ACKNOWLEDGED THAT FRENCH INTENTIONS ARE
STILL VIEWED WITH CONSIDERABLE SUSPICION IN ANGLOPHONE AFRICA,
AND HE ATTRIBUTED THIS MISTRUSTFUL ATTITUDE TO DIFFERENCES IN
FRENCH AND ENGLISH COLONIAL RACIAL POLICIES.
LEMELLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NAIROB10766
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770303-1253
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770833/aaaabbva.tel
Line Count: 142
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 54f66856-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 196242
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1517246
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF FRENCH FONMIN DE GUIRINGAUD
TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, KE, FR, US, XA, (GUIRINGAUD, LOUIS DE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/54f66856-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009